

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                                |   |                               |
|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| In re Patent Application of:   | ) |                               |
|                                | ) |                               |
| J. Donald Hill et al.          | ) | Examiner: Thomas C. Barrett   |
|                                | ) |                               |
| Application No. 09/987,976     | ) | Group Art Unit: 3738          |
|                                | ) |                               |
| Filed: November 16, 2001       | ) | <b>Confirmation No.: 7910</b> |
|                                | ) |                               |
| For: AUTOMATIC SUTURE FIXATION | ) |                               |
| APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR       | ) |                               |
| MINIMALLY INVASIVE CARDIAC     | ) |                               |
| SURGERY                        | ) |                               |

PAYMENT OF ISSUE AND PUBLICATION FEES

**MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE**

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Sir:

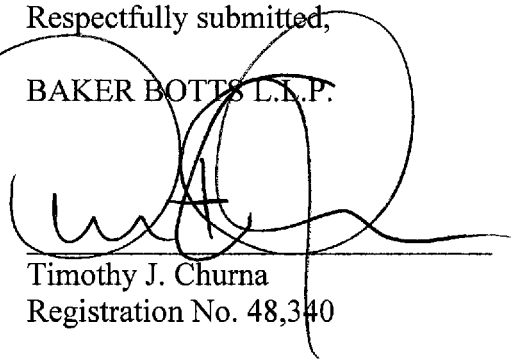
In accordance with the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due mailed October 5, 2006, Applicant is enclosing the Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal including an order for eleven (11) advanced patent copies. Applicant respectfully request that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) charge the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 02-0375 for the amount of \$1,033.00 for the Issue Fee (\$700.00), the Publication Fee (\$300.00), and the charge for the Advance Order of Copies (\$33.00). In the event of any variance between the amount determined

by Applicants and the fees determined by the PTO, please charge or credit such variance to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 02-0375.

Respectfully submitted,

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TJC/tt  
Enclosure